

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The population of Fryazino in 1952 was 6000. The majority of these people were employed at Institute 160. The dwellings were either stone apartment houses or wooden, single-unit, Finnish houses.

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The city occupied an area 1000 m by 800 m.

2. An electric railroad connected the city with Moscow, 50 km away. No other transportation to Moscow was available to the average Soviet.
3. I know nothing about Fryazino health statistics. There were very few elderly people in the city or in the USSR in general; possibly many of the older people died during the war.

DISEASE INCIDENCE

4. I cannot indicate which diseases were regarded as endemic. The city was too new for any detailed analysis of health conditions. Very severe influenza was prevalent and seemed more virulent than that of

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Germany. Tuberculosis was probably the most serious disease problem in the city. Conditions were unfavorable to the control of tuberculosis; food was never available in adequate amounts and living conditions were very crowded. When I left Fryazino, entire families had only one room assigned to them in which to live.

5. A serious hepatitis, resistant to treatment, frequently occurred in Fryazino, which afflicted the Germans as well as the Soviets. I do not know what the symptoms of this disease were other than severe jaundice, of course. Soviet physicians were aware of its widespread occurrence but were forbidden to discuss it. I believe many Soviets died of this disease.
6. No typhoid or typhus cases occurred, to my knowledge, during the period I spent in Fryazino. Venereal disease cases were rare, according to hearsay.
7. In 1949 there was an outbreak of poliomyelitis in the city. A 13-year-old German boy contracted the disease and was examined by the local Soviet physicians, who were unable to identify the disease symptoms. Fortunately, Dr. Micheis, one of the German experts who had himself suffered from poliomyelitis, recognized the symptoms, and medical aid was obtained from Moscow. I believe the boy received serum injections, but I can furnish no further details of the treatment of the disease, other than that it was apparently successful.
8. During the postwar years a severe epidemic of scarlet fever occurred. The Soviets sent a commission of doctors from Moscow to investigate conditions, but I do not know what was accomplished.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

9. The institute had a four-room dispensary (Zdravpunkt) which furnished emergency medical care to the workers. The dispensary had a staff consisting of one doctor, a dentist, and several assistants.
10. The hospital in Fryazino was located in one of the stone houses in the center of the city. This building was four stories high and was situated on a hill. I do not know the number of beds available in the hospital, but I noticed no crowding or lack of beds. The Soviets were in the process of building another hospital, which had not been completed at the time of my departure.
11. The physicians at the hospital were women about 40 years of age. Although I do not know how capable the staff was as a whole, the surgical section seemed to be quite competent.
12. I discovered that we Germans could obtain penicillin much more readily than could an average Soviet citizen, simply because penicillin was dispensed on a priority basis, depending on rank or position. I also noted that the hospital nurses were susceptible to bribes and could be induced to give required drugs to those patients who paid them extra money surreptitiously.
13. A separate building housed the polyclinic at Fryazino. This was located apart from the hospital, on the road to the railroad station. The polyclinic had 20 rooms. The staff included the usual specialists (ENT, gynecology, pediatrics, internal medicine, etc.), who were present at specified hours. These specialists came to the polyclinic from Moscow. Dental service was also available to the Soviets at the polyclinic.

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15. Pharmaceuticals were usually in short supply. White and red streptocide could be obtained at all times without a prescription; penicillin tablets were also obtainable in the city pharmacy without a prescription whenever in stock. Belladonna could not be obtained. Aspirin, pyramidon, and codeine were available. Bandages were scarce.

16. I never heard of the existence of a blood bank in the area.

INSTITUTE SAFETY MEASURES

17. Safety measures at Institute 160 were very inadequate. There appeared to be no system of safety control. To my knowledge, there was no possible way for the average worker to complain about working conditions, nor could he present his complaints through a workers' representative. I recall several explosions which occurred at the institute which apparently produced no repercussions among the staff. I do not believe anyone was punished for negligence.

FOOD AVAILABILITY AND INSPECTION

18. It was always difficult to obtain food in quantity or variety at Fryazino. Meat sold in the market place always bore a stamp--presumably of a veterinarian-inspector. Meat was sometimes sold door-to-door by private citizens; this meat was less expensive than that sold in the market place, but did not bear an inspection stamp.

19. I have very little knowledge of animal diseases in the Fryazino area. I heard once that "chicken-plague" disease was common in the district. Fryazino had many goats, sheep, pigs, and cows, but few horses. The city was not far from the forest area, and elk were found in the nearby wood.

20. Fruit was very scarce during the early years of my stay, but later was available in small quantities in the market place. Germans purchased fruit in Moscow, to which we occasionally travelled. It was possible to buy foods there, such as sausage, liverwurst, and coffee, which were not found in large supply in Fryazino.

21. There were several kolkhozy nearby; one was located about three kilometers away in the direction of Shchelkovo; another was about four kilometers distant in the opposite direction. However, produce from these farms was not supplied Fryazino on a priority basis and only the excess, if any, was brought to the market place in town by individual farmers.

22. There were no restaurants in Fryazino. There was a small lunchroom at the railroad station at which beer, small sausages, and wine could be purchased. Several small food stands were located in the city at which beer, sausage, and chopped meat could be obtained.

23. The supply of milk available in the market place was inadequate to meet the demand, and people were always forced to stand in line to purchase it when it was available. I do not believe it was pasteurized; however, the milk sold in Moscow was pasteurized.

24. Vodka was consumed in large quantities. I regarded it as the most important item of the Soviet workers' diet. Some workers consumed as much as 800 grams of vodka per week. A tacit family agreement seemed to be that the

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earnings of the wife were used to purchase food for the table; the husband's salary was used to buy vodka.

WATER SUPPLY

25. Fryazino had a public water-supply system which served only the stone houses in the center of town. The wooden houses ("Finnish" homes) were without running water, but obtained their water from nearby water faucets. Water was apparently obtained from wells and was pumped into water towers within the city area. The supply was adequate at all times, even in the summer.
26. The city maintained a sanitary check on the potability of the water and saw to it that it was chlorinated, but I have no idea how or where this was done. The water never tasted too much of chlorine, but the Soviets advised the Germans not to drink it without prior boiling.

DISPOSAL FACILITIES

27. The stone houses were equipped with a sanitary sewage disposal system whereby wastes were collected in a settling basin located directly opposite the stone house section of town. I do not know what treatment it received there; it was then emptied into a small brook which led to a river nearby.
28. Residents of the wooden houses utilized outdoor latrines. All sewage from these was thrown into the brook which flowed through the city. Some of these houses had communal cesspools. These cesspools were very easily clogged and rendered ineffective.
29. Garbage was deposited in open containers in front of the stone houses. There was a regular collection but I do not know when or how often this service operated. I considered the streets of Fryazino clean.

PEST CONTROL

30. Despite the fact that bugs were found everywhere in the city, there was no organized control of vermin. During the immediate postwar years DDT powder was available, but this is no longer in supply. Instead, the Soviets had a substitute powder which was apparently ineffective. Petroleum oil was poured about the rooms to control insects, particularly huge cockroaches, which were as large as small mice.
31. No concerted effort was made to control the numerous rats and mice in the city. There were many cats there, possibly kept in an effort to check the rodents.

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